



**WILLIAM ROCKHILL  
NELSON GALLERY OF  
ART and MARY ATKINS  
MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS**

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**GALLERY NEWS**



WEDNESDAY EVENING LECTURE SERIES

French Painting of the 19th and 20th Centuries:  
Due to the special series of lectures on Chinese Art to be given for the benefit of Chinese War Orphans, there will be only one lecture in the French series during the month of February:

February 3 - Degas and Fantin-Latour.

The series will be resumed on March 3rd when the subject will be Henri Toulouse-Lautrec.





GALLERY NEWS

February

1943

CHINESE BENEFIT LECTURE SERIES: The Gallery announces a series of three lectures to be presented in the Atkins Auditorium on Wednesday nights at eight o'clock, February 10th, 17th and 24th, for the benefit of the Chinese War Orphans. Each day we read and hear of the great need to assist our brave ally, China. She, of course, has desperate use for heavy armaments, but she also requires food and sustenance for her homeless waifs. The Gallery is bringing you an opportunity to save a child's life and at the same time enjoy three of the best lectures on China which it is possible to assemble.

On February 10th, Mr. F. St. George Spendlove, Assistant Keeper of the Royal Ontario Museum of Archaeology in Toronto, Ontario, will give a general talk, illustrated by lantern slides, on "Periods of Chinese Art". Mr. Spendlove holds the Academic Post-graduate Diploma in Archaeology University of London, and is a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and the Royal Society of Arts. At the International Exhibition of Chinese Art held in London in 1935-36, he was Assistant Secretary, Editor of the catalogue and on the official panel of lecturers. In this country he has lectured many places including Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Washington, New York.

On February 17th, Mr. Langdon Warner, Curator of Oriental Art of Fogg Museum and Lecturer in Fine Arts at Harvard University will lecture on "Cave Temples of China." Mr. Warner is a distinguished archaeologist, known to many Kansas Citizens. He was a member of the Humpelly-Carnegie Expedition, Trans-Caspia in 1904 and '05, and in charge of the first and second China expeditions for Fogg Art Museum. Those who have read his "Long Old Road in China" will know with what zest and vividness he describes the glories of that kingdom.

On February 24th, Miss Alison Stilwell, the

twenty-year old daughter of Lieutenant-General and Mrs. Joseph Warren Stilwell will lecture on "Chinese Painting", accompanying her lecture with an actual demonstration. Miss Stilwell was born in Peking and has lived half of her years in China. At 12 she began painting and at 15 was accepted by the famous painter, Prince Pu Ju (pronounced Poo-Roo) as his pupil. She later gave a joint exhibition with her master in Peking. In this country she has exhibited in New York and had sixteen one-man shows on the west coast. As announced elsewhere, there will be a special exhibition of her work in Gallery 24 during the month.

There will be a charge of \$2.00 plus 20¢ tax for the series of three lectures. The speakers, eager to help China, are waiving any fees other than a part of their expenses; this assures us that a large portion of the sale will go directly to Madame Chiang Kai-shek's committee for the Chinese War Orphans. Today the exchange is twenty to one, which means that every time we sell five tickets to the series, we have two hundred dollars to aid our desperate friends. Will you make this your project too? Tickets are on sale at our Sales Desk. If you have any questions do not hesitate to call the Gallery, Logan 4000. Will you tell others? And tell them about the social gathering which will follow each lecture, too. Between nine and ten, come to the Mezzanine Lounge and enjoy a cup of Chinese tea with us.

TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS: The very successful exhibition of Modern British Crafts will close on Sunday, February 7th. The Gallery Staff would like to take this opportunity to thank the British Council and Miss Muriel Rose for bringing the exhibition to us. It has not only accomplished its purpose of creating a better understanding of our ally, but has also made many new friends for the Gallery.

Jerome Myers Memorial Exhibition: On Sunday,



February 14th, a memorial exhibition of the work of Jerome Myers (1867-1940) will open in the central and south loan galleries. Jerome Myers' place in the history of the development of American art is an important and assured one. He represents, along with Eakins, Glackens, Prendergast, Luks, Henri and a few others, the beginnings of a modern and truly American art expression. These men, through the sincerity of their convictions and the power of their canvases, broke through the traditions of sentimentality and frippery which had engulfed the artists of the late 19th century. They restored to American art a basic solidity and opened to the artist the fields of the ordinary, American scene -- fields which have been developed into the American idiom.

From the standpoint of basic conviction, Myers is a realist. He wanted to present, through his canvases, what he saw in the life about him. Forty years before, Courbet and Daumier had done this for French art, but it was for Myers and his friends to show the American artist the beauty inherent in the ways and manners of our democratic life. Myers found his field of study in the lower part of Manhattan and its inhabitants, the colourful East side with its foreign population. These people were a part of him. It was in their sorrows and their joys, in their work and in their play, that he found the feeling of real beauty. From the standpoint of draughtsmanship, Myers represents a form of "American Impressionism". His drawing is extremely personal, free from derivative or academic attributes, and over this he imposes a mellow tone, built up by a free, though restrained brush-stroke. His pictures are enveloped in the warm glow of the early morning or the dark shadows of the night.

Jerome Myers was born in Petersburg, Virginia, on March 20, 1867, just after the Civil War, but spent his early life in Philadelphia, Trenton and Baltimore. In 1886 the family came to New York where Myers discovered the East side,

which he made the scene of his life work. He died in 1940. This memorial exhibition is circulated by the American Federation of Arts. It first opened in the Spring of 1941 at the Whitney Museum of American Art.

Paintings by Alison Stilwell will be displayed in Gallery 24 for the month of February. Enthusiastic critics of Miss Stilwell's work in China have pronounced her the only foreigner since the 18th century to grasp the Chinese spirit. The artist says of herself that she "paints in the Chinese manner...The Chinese do not paint from a model as students do in the West. Instead of anatomy, the pupil is taught to study flower arrangements or the folds in a robe. When ready to paint a picture, you paint entirely from your imagination. Then your work is judged on the spirit and vitality of its lines, on its coloring and the eloquence of its spaces." Her subject matter includes landscapes, figures, birds and flowers. The exhibition comes to us from San Francisco and will then be shown in St. Louis and the East.

Chinese Tomb Furnishings: Mr. and Mrs. Walter Beck of Innisfree, Millbrook, New York are lending to the Gallery their collection of Chinese court costumes currently on display at Fogg Museum, Cambridge, Mass. Included in this group are three robes which at one time represented their mistresses by taking their place in a tomb alongside the deceased master. Of the few similar robes which have been recovered from princely tombs, this Gallery has a comparatively large number. During February the Beck collection together with our permanent collection will be shown in Gallery 26. One case in the room will be devoted to a display of pottery, bronze and jade objects placed in tombs of earlier centuries.

MASTERPIECE OF THE MONTH: The Masterpiece Room will display for the month of February a



Chinese Lady's Coat of satin embroidered with scattered sprays of flowers and fruit which has just been presented to the Gallery by Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth Laferme in memory of her husband, John G. Laferme. On the dark rich purple background there are freely drawn motifs embroidered in bright silk floss. The designs may be easily identified as red and yellow roses, daisy, orange blossom, orchid, lily, dogwood, lotus, grape nectarine, Buddha's fingers, melons and butterflies. This coat dates from the early 19th century, the last great period of Chinese textiles and is a welcome addition to our permanent collection.

FRIDAY EVENING OPENINGS: The February program of Gallery talks will be as follows:

- Feb. 5 - British Crafts, Gallery 2, Miss Rose.
- " 12 - Paintings by Alison Stilwell, Gallery 24, Miss Hughes
- " 19 - Jerome Myers, Gallery 19, Miss Jackson
- " 26 - Chinese Textiles, Gallery 26, Miss Hughes

The talks are at 7:45 and are followed by a music program in the Auditorium at 8:15. See calendar for schedule of concerts.

FRIENDS OF ART: At a recent meeting of the Board of Governors, the following officers were elected for 1943: B.N.Simpson, President; D.L.James, 1st Vice-President; Mrs. Fletcher Cowherd, 2nd Vic-President; Mrs. Clyde Porter, Treasurer; and Mrs. James P. Kem, Secretary.

The February meeting of the Study Group will be held at 11 o'clock on Thursday, the 18th, in the Central Loan Gallery. At that time Miss Jackson will discuss the paintings and drawings of Jerome Myers.

CERAMICS ROOM: Continuing the chronological survey of the Burnap Collection of English Pottery, the Ceramics Room will be installed for the months of February and March with a group of Staffordshire potteries. The work of Ralph and Enoch Wood, who so ably carried on the fine tradition of figure making begun with the salt-glaze potters, will be featured. Toby jugs blue and white ware and other Staffordshire types will be included.

GALLERY NOTES: The fine group of Early Italian paintings from the Lehman Collection has been reinstalled in Gallery 2.

The many people who have missed our fine Goya portrait from the walls of Gallery 11 will be interested to know that it has been returned to its usual place. After having been cleaned, those qualities which make it one of the outstanding canvases by this master are even more evident.

The beautiful Rubens "Portrait of Susanna Fourment", from the Birnbaum Collection, has also been reinstalled after an absence of several weeks. During that time it was featured in a New York exhibition of this master's work.

MUSIC NOTES: One of the most interesting features of the Sunday open-house for service men has been the discovery of musical talent among soldiers and sailors stationed in Kansas City. On Sunday afternoon, February 7th at three-thirty, Sergeant Rowland G.H. Sturges will present a concert in the Atkins Auditorium. Sergeant Sturges, who is training at the U.S. Army Radio School, is a native of Providence, R.I. He studied three years in Paris under Mlle. Nadia Boulanger, the eminent French musician and teacher, now teaching in Boston and at the Peabody Institute in Baltimore. After returning to America, Sergeant Sturges was graduated from Harvard University where he studied with Walter Piston, and for the past three years has been working under Lily Dymont, of Europ-



ean Concert fame. The program on Sunday will include works by Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, Chopin and Stravinsky.

A complete list of the Friday evening and Sunday afternoon concerts may be found in the calendar for February on page 8.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN: On February 13, at 2:30 P.M., the Junior League Children's Theater will present a marionette play, "Diantha's Signet Ring". This is an exciting story of a young girl in Colonial Williamsburg, with a setting of authentic costumes and scenes of the period. It is open to all children without charge and is the motion picture, "The Scarlet Pimpernel", to be given on February 27th. The program for Saturday, February 20th, will be announced later.



# CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY

Feb.

- Tues. 2 - 2:00 - Library - Asiatic Study Club
- Wed., 3 - 8:00 - Lecture - Degas & Fantin-Latour, Miss Jackson
- \*Fri., 5 - 7:45 - Gallery 2 - Talk, British Arts and Crafts, Miss Rose.
- Sun., 7 - 3:30 - Concert - Sgt. Rowland Sturges
- Tues., 9 - 10:00 - Lounge - Aspasia Delphians
- " 9 - 10:00 - Library - Book Club
- " 9 - 1:00 - Library - Art Study Club
- Wed., 10 - 10:00 - Library - Zeneta Delphians
- " 10 - 8:00 - Lecture - Periods in Chinese Art, F. St. George Spendlove
- \*Fri., 12 - 7:45 - Gallery 24 - Talk, Paintings of Alison Stilwell, Miss Hughes
- Sat., 13 - 2:30 - Marionette Play - "Diantha's Signet Ring".
- Sun., 14 - 4:00 - Concert - Pupils of Hunt-Forsythe Studio
- Tues., 16 - 2:00 - Library - Asiatic Study Club
- Wed., 17 - 8:00 - Lecture - Langdon Warner
- Thurs. 18 - 11:00 - Loan Gallery - Friends of Art
- \*Fri., 19 - 7:45 - Gallery 19 - Talk, Jerome Myers, Miss Jackson
- Sun., 21 - 3:30 - Concert - Bell Canto
- Tues., 23 - 10:00 - Lounge - Aspasia Delphians
- Wed., 24 - 10:00 - Library - Zeneta Delphians
- " 24 - 8:00 - Lecture - Alison Stilwell
- Fri., 26 - 7:45 - Gallery 26 - Talk, Chinese Textiles, Miss Hughes.
- " 26 - 8:15 - Concert - Conservatory of Music.
- Sat., 27 - 2:30 - Motion Picture - Scarlet Pimpernel.
- Sun., 28 - 3:30 - Concert - Pupils of Claudine Lucas

\* Concerts following these talks will be:

- Feb. 5th - Pupils of Mrs. Paul Willson and Della Willson.
- Feb. 12th - Conservatory of Music Opera Exerpts
- Feb. 19th - Conservatory of Music, Pupils of Rachel Hartley Ward.







Per Lindsay  
Hatch's  
diary.  
Warner  
cancelled &  
she got  
Jim Phares  
from Univ.  
of Michigan  
for 417.

WILLIAM ROCKHILL NELSON GALLERY OF ART

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KANSAS CITY, MO.

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